

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Spain

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DATE DISTR. 23 August 1948

SUBJECT Activities of Manuel HEDILLA Larrey

NO. OF PAGES 1

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

1. The attempts reportedly being made by Manuel HEDILLA Larrey to force changes in the Spanish regime are directed against the situation which FRANCO represents rather than against the Caudillo himself. According to the [REDACTED] HEDILLA is making use of his loyal followers in the Falange but he believes the Falange as such to be a dead issue. HEDILLA is not interested in "subversive" activities, preferring reform by the replacement of incompetents in important offices. This end he is seeking to accomplish by exerting influence on members of the Cortes, Youth Front leaders, secretaries of Civil Governments, Syndicates, etc, who can speak without being branded as enemies of the Regime.

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2. Archbishop OLACHEA of Valencia reportedly refused to withdraw an invitation to HEDILLA to attend a religious festival held during the past Spring, saying that he could not refuse admission to purely religious rites to such a Christian gentleman. According to the [REDACTED] the Civil Governor of Valencia had brought pressure for the withdrawal of the invitation on the ground that HEDILLA's presence might give rise to demonstrations which would embarrass several Ministers who were to attend the rites. The [REDACTED] stated that HEDILLA did in fact attend the ceremonies but made no attempt to take political advantage of the occasion. (Washington Comment: The apparent friendship of the Archbishop of Valencia for HEDILLA is interesting in view of the fact that OLACHEA previously has been reported to be a Don Juan sympathizer.-- [REDACTED])

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3. Certain members of the Cortes, according to the [REDACTED] had planned to bring before that body the question of compensation for HEDILLA for his supposedly false arrest and imprisonment, but Rodrigo VIVAR Tellez, acting on instructions from FRANCO, succeeded in persuading them to drop the subject.

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4. The [REDACTED] said that HEDILLA was annoyed with General Juan YAGUE Blanco, whom he had considered to be his friend, because the General appeared to have changed his attitude since his promotion to Lieutenant General.

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